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Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of

Inventor(s): Richard Norris DODGE II et al.

For: **ABSORBENT MATERIALS HAVING IMPROVED FLUID INTAKE AND LOCK-UP PROPERTIES**  
 (A divisional application of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/291,239, Filing Date: 08 November 2002, which is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/017,683, Filing Date: 14 December 2001)

Prior Application Information: Examiner: Michele Kidwell; Group No.: 3761

Enclosed are:


- ☒ Thirty-two (32) pages of specification, one (1) cover sheet, twelve (12) pages of claims (Claims 1-54), one (1) page of Abstract, and eight (8) sheets of drawings (Figs. 1-3, 4A, 4B and 5-8).
- ☒ A true copy of the executed combined Oath or Declaration, Power of Attorney and Petition from Serial No. 10/291,239 (5 pages).
- ☒ Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail (2 pages).
- ☒ First Information Disclosure Statement, together with Form PTO-1449 (5 pages) and without a copy of each and every cited reference.
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard.

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

	COL. 1	COL. 2	SMALL ENTITY			LARGE ENTITY	
FOR:	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA	RATE	FEE	OR	RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE				\$375	OR		\$750
TOTAL CLAIMS	54 less 20	34	X 09 =		OR	X 18 =	612
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	5 less 3	2	X 42 =		OR	X 84 =	168
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED			+140=		OR	+280 =	
* IF THE DIFFERENCE IN COL. 1 IS LESS THAN ZERO, ENTER "0" IN COL. 2			TOTAL		OR	TOTAL	1530

- ☒ A check in the amount of \$1530.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-3550. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
  - ☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16.
  - ☐ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

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